Smuggling of Fake Currency

684. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI ANANTA SETHI:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that attempts were being made by those jealous of the country's progress to sabotage its economy by pumping in fake currency notes;

(b) whether fake currency notes were being printed at Pak Security Press at Peshawar as reported in the "Times of India' and "Hindustan Times" dated 10th January, 2000 and being smuggled into India;

(c) how many people have so far been arrested by the custom/Police authorities in India in this regard indicating the total amount of seizure till date (State-wise); and

(d) what preventive measures Government have taken so far to check smuggling of fake currency notes into India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no concrete evidence that the fake currency notes were being printed at Pak Security Press at Peshawar.

(c) Information available with the National Crime Records Bureau in this regard for the years 1998 and 1999 is given in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 21]

(d) A committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Finance on 22.2.2000 for examining cases of counterfeit currency notes and to recommend remedial measures that should be taken by the note printing presses from time to time. The Committee has been asked to submit its report within two months.

It may be mentioned that the Reserve Bank of India issues press releases, from time to time, to enable the public to distinguish between genuine and fake currency notes. In order to combat counterfeiting, currency notes are also now printed with additional security features. The Central Bureau of Investigation has created a Special Unit for exclusive investigation of

counterfeit currency notes. The Border Security Force has alerted its forward troops to be more vigilant so as to ensure that such currency notes are not smuggled into the country.

Kashmiri Migrants

† 685. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
PROF. RAM BAKHSH SINGH VERMA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Central Government to send the Kashmiri migrants back to Kashmir after the constitution of new Government along with the number of such Kashmiri migrants;

(b) the number of Kashmiri migrants who have reached back to their destinations so far;

(c) the facilities being provided to remaining Kashmiri migrants to send them back to Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) The policy of the Government is based on the premise that the migrants would return to their native places in the Valley once the conditions reasonably conducive for their return are created. The main thrust of the policy has been to ensure that the difficulties and hardships of migrants, while they are outside the valley are minimised. Till such time the migrants return to the Valley, necessary assistance including cash relief, dry ration and temporary accommodation are being provided to the migrants.

The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has informed that the issue about return of Kashmiri migrants is at top of agenda. With a view to ensure their safe and honorable return to their native places, the state Government is in the process of drawing up an Action plan.

Statement on Ayodhya by U.P. Chief Minister

686. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh that he will not stand in the way of peaceful construction of Ram Temple at Ayodhya; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.